

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 07937 240650Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 SSM-03 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/091 W

-----009218 240651Z /23

R 231509Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6174
INFO RUQMY /AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 371
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
RUEHEGJEAMEMBASSY CAIRO 3204
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USLO RIYADH
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 7937

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: EAID, MASS, PINS, SY
SUBJ: ARAB ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA

1. LOUIS FARS, SYRIAN FREELANCE REPORTED, CLAIMS PRESIDENT
ASSAD RECEIVED COMMITMENT OF \$200 MILLION FROM LIBYA DURING
TRIPOLI CONFERENCE. FUNDS ARE NOT PROJECT EARMARKED AND WILL BE
USDE BY THE REGIME TO SWEETEN THE POT FOR THE SYRIAN MILITARY.
IN ADDITION, FARES SAID THAT DURING ASSAD'S VISIT TO SAUDI
ARABIA AND THE GULF, HE RECEIVED COMMITMENTS FORM ALL DONOR
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STATES TO CONTINUE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF SYRIA.

2. FARES SAID HE HAD HEARD THE 200 MILLION FIGURE FROM NON-
OFFICIAL SOURCES WHOM HE CONSIDERED RELIABLE. HE HAD ASKED
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABOUT THE FIGURE BUT THEY REFUSED TO
CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORT. HE WAS TOLD HE SHOULD NOT BE
SO COURIOUS.

3. WE HAVE ASSUMED ASSAD GOT SOME PROMISES FROM THE LIBYANS,
BUT HAVE NOT HEARD FIGURES MENTIONED BY MORE AUTHORITATIVE
SOURCES. 200 MILLION, PARTICULARLY IF IT IS NOT PROJECT
TIED, COULD BE A VERY LARGE CONTRIBUTION OF FREE FOREIGN
EXCHANGE SYRIA NEEDS TO MAINTAIN PRESENT HIGH LEVEL OF
CONSUMPTION, GOVERNMENT MAY BE RELUCTANT TO SET THE INFOR-
MATION ON LIBYA'S PROMISES OUT, KNOWING THAT QADDHAFI IS
MUCH BETTER AT MAKING PROMISES THAN DELIVERING ON THEM.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771223/aaaaasqe.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 141032
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA
TAGS: EAID, MASS, PINS, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
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